

Wastewater Large Users Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday August 17, 2023 – 1:30 P.M.
Hagen Park Community Center, Wilton Manors, FL

Voting Members Present:

Talal Abi-Karam, City of Fort Lauderdale / Assistant Public Works Director - Utilities
David Archacki, City of Wilton Manors / Public Works Director
Albert Carbon, City of Oakland Park / Public Works Director
Rhonda Montoya Hasan, City of Fort Lauderdale / Assistant City Attorney III
Miguel Arroyo, Water and Wastewater Treatment Manager
Jud Hopping, City of Fort Lauderdale / Distribution & Collection Systems Manager

Roll Call:

Chris Lips, City of Oakland Park / Assistant Public Works Director
Fernando Martinez, City of Oakland Park / Public Works Manager
Pennie Zuercher, City of Wilton Manors / Finance Director
Bert Fisher, City of Wilton Manors / Assistant Director, Utilities
Carol Conol, City of Wilton Manors / Assistant Finance Director
Tim O'Neil, CDM
Jerry Robinson, City of Tamarac / Wastewater Supervisor
Justin Murray, City of Fort Lauderdale / Wastewater Facilities Manager
Christopher Bennett, City of Fort Lauderdale / Assistant Public Works Director – Engineering
Daniel Rey, City of Fort Lauderdale / Land Development Manager, DSD
Kym Holcombe, City of Fort Lauderdale / Business Manager
Aaron Kendrick, City of Fort Lauderdale / Deputy Director – Finance
Martha Romero, City of Fort Lauderdale / Finance Manager
Shannon Barrett, City of Fort Lauderdale / Financial Administrator
Christeena Sutherland, City of Fort Lauderdale / Senior Administrative Assistant
Rafeela Persaud, City of Fort Lauderdale / Senior Administrative Assistant

Welcome – Talal Abi-Karam

Mr. Abi-Karam called meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Mr. Abi-Karam asked everyone to introduce themselves, and verified there was a quorum. He stated the business of the Advisory Board is structured in accordance with the City of Ordinance Chapter 28, Sections 28-29. He explained that this meeting is for wastewater discussion only, and the votes are based on volume and contribution to the central large users' wastewater system.

Kym Holcombe offered clarification that the Finance team had taken the chance to review and finalize the data outlined in the revised "Computation of Rates to be Charged" document. She highlighted that in the preceding meeting, there were some questions about Characters 10 and 20, particularly regarding employee benefits. Ms. Holcombe explained in the last report*, the two Characters were combined into a single line item.

Ms. Romero said that the adopted budget and projected budget book is available on the City's website.

Tim O'Neil, Consultant for the City of Fort Lauderdale, did a presentation explaining the FY2023 Projection amount of \$512,560,376 that was shown in the last report*.

Discussion followed regarding the FY2023 projection amount of \$512,560,376 shown on the last report*, the budget not reflecting the dollar amount in FY2023, Annual R&R report which is available, contributions to the CIP from City of Fort Lauderdale which is included in the per thousand gallon rate, and funds being distributed to the Reserves, consideration of completing the R&R earlier in the year, explanation of Character 60 which accounts for capital replacements over \$5K, etc.

Pennie Zuercher thanked the Finance Team for their due diligence in the revised report.

Mr. Abi-Karam asked if the Renewal and Replacement (R&R) report be distributed to the Large Users. Mr. Carbon requested the R&R report be available earlier so that the municipalities can use it as part of their budget document.

Mr. Abi-Karam asked for a motion for the proposed rate for FY2024. Miguel Arroyo made a motion to set the new rate at \$2.82 per thousand gallons for FY2024. Mr. Hopping seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Abi-Karam moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

**last report – "Computation of Rate to be Charged" document distributed at the August 9, 2023 meeting.*